

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1. In an apparatus comprising:  
a fuel tank having a top, bottom, a first side, a second side, a first end and a  
5 second end; and  
a baffle disposed in said fuel tank at an intermediate place between said first and  
second ends extending between the top and bottom and between said first side and said  
second side for preventing noise caused when fuel shifts in the fuel tank from one of  
said first and second ends toward the other end thereof;  
10 the improvement comprising said baffle including at least a portion thereof being  
of a fiberglass filter media material.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said fuel tank is constructed of a  
plastic material.

3. Apparatus comprising:  
15 a fuel tank having a top, bottom, a first side, a second side, a first end and  
a second end and having an opening in the top thereof;  
a sound absorbing baffle having a length, a width and a height and being  
constructed of a material to allow liquid fuel to flow there through; and  
means associated with said baffle for permitting the height of said baffle  
20 to be temporarily reduced so that said baffle will pass through said opening in the top of

the tank and allow said baffle to substantially extend from the top to the bottom of said tank once it is in the tank.

- 2  
4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said baffle comprises:
- 5 a bottom holder;
- a top holder, said top holder having a first position and a second position
- with respect to said bottom holder;
- a media disposed in at least one of said top and bottom holders for
- absorbing sound and fuel wave motion and permitting fuel to pass there through; and
- said means associated with said baffle for permitting the height of said
- 10 baffle to be temporarily reduced including biasing means for biasing said top holder to
- said first position whereby said baffle will extend substantially from the top to the
- bottom of said tank and permitting said top holder to move to the second position
- thereof whereby said baffle height is reduced enough to allow the baffle to pass through
- said opening in the top of the tank.

- 3  
5. The apparatus of claim 2 including means for temporarily locking said
- 15 top holder to said second position thereof whereby it can be locked in said second
- position thereof while inserting said baffle into said fuel tank and permitting said top
- portion to be unlocked after it is placed in a predetermined position within said fuel
- tank.

4 ~~6~~ 3  
The apparatus of claim ~~3~~ wherein said locking means includes a first hole in a portion of said top holder, a second hole in a portion of said bottom holder and a pin for selectively extending into said first and second holes when said top portion is in the second position thereof.

5 5 ~~7~~ 2  
The apparatus of claim ~~4~~ wherein said top holder is a cage having openings to permit fuel to more easily flow through said sound absorbing baffle.

6 ~~8~~ 2  
The apparatus of claim ~~4~~ wherein said media comprises fiberglass.

7 ~~9~~ 2  
The apparatus of claim ~~4~~ wherein said media comprises a semi-rigid plastic foam material.

8 ~~10~~ 7  
The apparatus of claim ~~9~~ wherein said plastic foam material comprises polyurethane.

9 ~~11~~ 1  
The apparatus of claim ~~3~~ wherein a metal component is provided in said baffle for allowing the position of said baffle within said tank to be determined with a metal sensing device.

10 ~~12~~ 2  
The apparatus of claim ~~4~~ wherein a cloth cover is disposed on said media.